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AUTHOR(S):

AOKI, NOBUO

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Markov Partitions and Densely Periodic of Group Automorphisms

Nobuo AOKI (Tokyo)

§ 1 INTRODUCTION.

Specification for solenoidal automorphisms is studied in [4]. However it is unknown yet what kind of zero-dimensional abelian automorphisms admit the specification property. The purpose of this paper is to solve a problem related to [1]; i.e. in the class of abelian automorphisms, specification for zero-dimensional automorphisms is strictly stronger than ergodicity (Theorems 1 and 2). This shows that the conjecture posed in [8] is false, and that there exist ergodic zero-dimensional automorphisms which are not densely periodic. In fact it will be proved that every zero-dimensional abelian automorphism is ergodic iff it satisfies weak specification (Theorem 4). We remark here that for solenoidal automorphisms, weak specification is strictly stronger than ergodicity (see Theorem 2 of [4]). From our result (Theorem 2) and a result on solenoidal automorphisms with specification proved in [4], it will be discussed that every expansive automorphism with specification has a Markov partition of an arbitrary small diameter (Theorem 3). And for the case of such automorphisms we shall obtain a result which is proved by K. SIGMUND [10]; i.e. if an axiom A diffeomorphism  $f$  is topologically mixing

on an infinite basic set  $X$ , then for every  $\underline{\mu}$  in a dense set of the space  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $f$ -invariant probability measures,  $(X, f, \underline{\mu})$  is Bernoullian. Finally we shall prove that every zero-dimensional automorphism holds the pseudo-orbit tracing property (Theorem 5).

Our approach in obtaining the above results is based on the topological dynamics introduced in M. DENKER, C. GRILLENBERG and K. SIGMUND [7].

In the remainder of this section, we shall give some definitions which are used in the proof of the theorem. Let  $X$  be a compact metric abelian group with metric  $d$  and  $\underline{\sigma}$  be an automorphism of  $X$ . Then  $\underline{\sigma}$  preserves the normalized Haar measure of  $X$ . Hence we can consider ergodic theoretical properties of  $(X, \underline{\sigma})$ . The Kolmogorov entropy of  $\underline{\sigma}$  will be denoted by  $h(\underline{\sigma})$ . It is well known that if  $\underline{\sigma}$  is ergodic under the normalized Haar measure then it is measure-theoretically isomorphic to a Bernoulli shift, so that  $(X, \underline{\sigma})$  is topologically mixing (i.e. for any two open sets  $U$  and  $V$  there is an  $M > 0$  such that  $U \cap \underline{\sigma}^n V \neq \emptyset$  for all  $n \geq M$ ). We call that  $(X, \underline{\sigma})$  is expansive if there is an open neighborhood  $U$  of the identity  $0$  in  $X$  such that  $\bigcap_{-\infty}^{\infty} \underline{\sigma}^n U = \{0\}$ . We know that every expansive automorphism has finite entropy. The system  $(X, \underline{\sigma})$  is said to satisfy specification if for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is an  $M(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that for every  $k \geq 1$  and  $k$  points  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in X$  and for every set of integers  $a_1 \leq b_1 < a_2 \leq b_2 < \dots < a_k \leq b_k$  with  $a_i - b_{i-1} \geq M(\varepsilon)$  ( $2 \leq i \leq k$ ) and for every integer  $p$  with  $p \geq b_k - a_1 + M(\varepsilon)$ , there is a point  $x \in X$  such that  $d(\underline{\sigma}^n x, \underline{\sigma}^n x_i) < \varepsilon$  for  $a_i \leq n \leq b_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) and  $\underline{\sigma}^p x = x$ . The

system  $(X, \sigma)$  is said to satisfy weak specification if it has the condition of specification except for the periodic condition  $\sigma^p x = x$ . It is checked easily that every automorphism with weak specification is ergodic under the Haar measure. A sequence  $\{x_i : a < i < b\}$  ( $a = -\infty$  or  $b = \infty$  is permitted) of points in  $X$  is an  $\varepsilon$ -pseudo-orbit if  $d(\sigma x_i, x_{i+1}) < \varepsilon$  ( $a < i < b-1$ ). A point  $x \in X$   $\varepsilon$ -traces  $\{x_i : a < i < b\}$  if  $d(\sigma^i x, x_i) < \varepsilon$  ( $a < i < b$ ). We say that  $(X, \sigma)$  has the pseudo-orbit tracing property if for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is an  $\delta = \delta(\varepsilon) > 0$  so that every  $\delta$ -pseudo-orbit  $\{x_i : a < i < b\}$  in  $X$  is  $\varepsilon$ -traced by a point  $x \in X$ . For every  $k$  we write  $P_k(\sigma) = \{x \in X : \sigma^k x = x\}$  and  $P(\sigma) = \bigcup_1^\infty P_k(\sigma)$ . Then  $P(\sigma)$  is an algebraic subgroup of  $X$ . The system  $(X, \sigma)$  is said to be densely periodic if  $P(\sigma)$  is dense in  $X$ . It is clear from definition that if  $(X, \sigma)$  satisfies specification then it is densely periodic. Let  $X$  split into a direct sum  $X = \bigoplus_{-\infty}^\infty H_i$  of the copies of a subgroup  $H$ . The shift automorphism  $\sigma$  of  $X$  defined by  $\sigma\{h_n\} = \{h_{n+1}\}$  will be called a Bernoulli automorphism. Every Bernoulli automorphism satisfies specification (see p. 193 of [7]). A Bernoulli automorphism having a group of states which is different from the identity and having no proper non-trivial subgroups will be called a simple Bernoulli automorphism. It is known (Proposition 3.6 of [6]) that every simple Bernoulli automorphism holds the pseudo-orbit tracing property.

Let  $G$  denote the dual group of  $X$ . We define the dual automorphism  $\gamma$  of  $G$  by  $(\gamma g)(x) = g(\sigma x)$ ,  $g \in G$  and  $x \in X$ . It follows from Pontrjagin's duality theorem that  $(X, \sigma)$  is densely

periodic iff  $\bigcap_n (\gamma^n - I)G = \{0\}$  where  $I$  denotes the identity map of  $G$ . We call that  $(G, \gamma)$  is finitely generated under  $\gamma$  if there is a finite set  $F$  in  $G$  such that  $G = \text{gp} \bigcup_{-\infty}^{\infty} \gamma^j F$  (the notation  $\text{gp } E$  means the subgroup generated by a set  $E$ ). It is proved in p. 258 of [15] that  $X$  is connected iff  $G$  is torsion free (i.e. every  $0 \neq g \in G$  has no finite order) and  $X$  is zero-dimensional iff  $G$  is a torsion group (i.e. for every  $g \in G$  there is an  $n > 0$  such that  $ng = 0$ ).

The discrete abelian groups in which the orders of all elements are powers of a fixed prime  $p$  are called p-primary groups. In particular let  $G$  be a countable discrete abelian group annihilated by multiplication by a prime  $p$  and  $\gamma$  be an automorphism of  $G$ . If  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$  is the ring of polynomials in  $x$  and  $x^{-1}$  with coefficients in the field  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  (the notation  $\mathbb{Z}$  means the ring consisting of all integers), then the ring acts on  $G$  by  $q(x, x^{-1})g = q(\gamma, \gamma^{-1})g$ ,  $g \in G$ . So we can consider  $G$  to be a  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -module. We write  $R_k(p) = \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}[x^k, x^{-k}]$  ( $k \geq 1$ ). It is clear that  $R_k(p)$  is a subring of  $R_1(p)$ . We say that  $G$  is  $R_1(p)$ -torsion free if every  $0 \neq g \in G$  has  $ag \neq 0$  for all  $0 \neq a \in R_1(p)$ . When every  $g \in G$  has  $ag = 0$  for some  $0 \neq a \in R_1(p)$ ,  $G$  is said to be a  $R_1(p)$ -torsion group. It is easily checked that  $(G, \gamma)$  is aperiodic except the identity iff  $G$  is  $R_1(p)$ -torsion free. We say that the  $R_1(p)$ -rank of  $G$  is  $r > 0$  when there are  $r$  elements  $g_1, \dots, g_r \in G$  such that  $a_1 g_1 + \dots + a_r g_r = 0$  ( $a_1, \dots, a_r \in R_1(p)$ ) implies  $a_1 = \dots = a_r = 0$ , and every

$0 \neq g \in G$  is expressed as  $ag = a_1g_1 + \dots + a_rg_r$  for some  $0 \neq a \in R_1(p)$  and some  $a_1, \dots, a_r \in R_1(p)$  with  $(a_1, \dots, a_r) \neq (0, \dots, 0)$ . Obviously,  $R_1(p)\text{-rank}(G) = 1$  implies  $R_k(p)\text{-rank}(G) = k$  ( $k \geq 1$ ). If  $G$  is  $R_1(p)$ -torsion free, then for  $0 \neq f \in G$ ,  $R_1(p)f$  is expressed as a restricted direct sum  $R_1(p)f = \bigoplus_{-\infty}^{\infty} \gamma^j \langle f \rangle$  of the subgroups where  $\langle f \rangle$  denotes a cyclic group of order  $p$ .

Throughout this paper, given an automorphism of a group, its restriction on a subgroup and its factor automorphism on a factor group will be denoted by the same symbol as the original automorphism if there is no confusion.

## § 2 RESULTS.

In this paper the followings will be proved.

THEOREM 1. Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of a zero-dimensional compact metric abelian group  $X$  and  $(G, \gamma)$  denote the dual of  $(X, \sigma)$  as before. Assume that every  $g \in G$  is annihilated by multiplication by a prime  $p$  and the  $R_1(p)$ -rank of  $G$  is one. If  $(X, \sigma)$  satisfies specification, then  $\sigma$  is a simple Bernoulli automorphisms.

Applying Theorem 1, we shall obtain the following

THEOREM 2. Let  $X$  and  $\sigma$  be as in Theorem 1. Then the followings are equivalent ;

- (A)  $(X, \sigma)$  satisfies specification,
- (B) there exists a zero-dimensional compact metric abelian

group  $\bar{X}$  and a Bernoulli automorphism  $\bar{\sigma}$  of  $\bar{X}$  such that  $(X, \sigma)$  is an algebraic factor of  $(\bar{X}, \bar{\sigma})$ .

(C)  $X$  contains a sequence  $X = F_0 \supset F_1 \supset \dots$  of completely  $\sigma$ -invariant subgroups such that  $\bigcap F_n = \{0\}$  and for every  $n > 0$ ,  $\sigma_{F_n/F_{n+1}}$  is a Bernoulli automorphism.

It is proved in [1] that there exists an ergodic automorphism  $\sigma$  of a zero-dimensional compact metric abelian group  $X$  such that  $X$  has no periodic points under  $\sigma$  except the identity. From this together with Theorem 1, it will be followed that in the class of zero-dimensional automorphisms, specification is strictly stronger than ergodicity. The following is an easy conclusion of Theorem 2.

COROLLARY 1. Let  $X$  and  $\sigma$  be as in Theorem 1, if  $(X, \sigma)$  is expansive and ergodic, then  $(X, \sigma)$  satisfies specification.

THEOREM 3. Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of a compact metric abelian group  $X$ . If  $(X, \sigma)$  is ergodic and expansive, then  $(X, \sigma)$  has a Markov partition of an arbitrary small diameter (cf. see p. 246 of [7] for definition).

COROLLARY 2. Under the notations of Theorem 3, if  $(X, \sigma)$  is ergodic and expansive, then the measures  $\mu$  such that  $(X, \sigma, \mu)$  is measure-theoretically isomorphic to a Bernoulli shift form a dense subset of the space  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $\sigma$ -invariant measures with weak topology.

PROOF. Since  $(X, \sigma)$  has a Markov partition by Theorem 3 , the conclusion follows from Lemma 4 of K. SIGMUND [10] .

THEOREM 4. Let  $X$  and  $\sigma$  be as in Theorem 1 . Then the followings are equivalent ;

- (A)  $(X, \sigma)$  is ergodic,
- (B)  $(X, \sigma)$  satisfies weak specification.

THEOREM 5. Every automorphism of a zero-dimensional compact metric abelian group holds the pseudo-orbit tracing property.

The results mentioned above are proved in [18] and so we omit the proofs here.



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